

ITTF POLICY STATEMENT 2012 (3)

TO: U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Preparedness Fund Sub-recipients

FROM: Jonathon Monken, Director
Illinois Emergency Management Agency 

DATE: June 6, 2012

SUBJECT: Illinois Terrorism Task Force Policy Statement Regarding Standard Guide for Fatality Management in Illinois

INTRODUCTION

Governor's Executive Order 2003 (17) created the statewide homeland security advisory committee, the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF). The ITTF is responsible for developing and helping to implement the state's homeland security strategy as an advisory body to the Governor and overseeing the management and administration of federal preparedness grants. The task force continues to build upon a strong foundation of established working partnerships among its over 60 members, which represent all public safety agencies and associations and every community in Illinois.

BACKGROUND

"Mass Fatality" is defined as any situation in which there are more human remains to be recovered and processed than can be accomplished with available resources. Illinois' Fatality Management Cooperative Work Group began in the fall of 2008 with representatives from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, ITTF, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners Association, Illinois Emergency Services Management Association, Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators, Illinois Funeral Directors Association, local coroners, local emergency management agencies, local public health, and Cook County Medical Examiner's Office. Once draft language for the Standard Guide for Fatality Management in Illinois was developed, key stakeholders throughout Illinois provided input.

The Standard Guide for Fatality Management in Illinois is a tool for fatality management annex development. Taking an all hazards approach, this document offers guidance on developing a fatality management annex that is scalable and can be tailored to any fatality management incident.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

Consistent with the Illinois homeland security strategy to ensure statewide applicability of programs and standards to ensure complete interoperability, the ITTF recommends that state and local government organizations use the Standard Guide for Fatality Management in Illinois as the standard tool for the development of mortuary services and/or fatality management annexes.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE POLICY

This policy is effective immediately.

